SHORT NOTICE QUESTION.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the recent release of certain prisoners from the Central Prison was at the instance of the Government of India.

President: In pursuance of the policy consistently and with great consideration followed by the Government of India of not interfering with the internal administration of Travancore or with the administrative, commercial, industrial or agricultural policies pursued by the State, no directions or instructions have reached this Government regarding the release of so called political prisoners or of detenues.

The action that has recently been taken in releasing certain persons has been so taken mainly on account of the conditions that are now prevailing in the State of absolute peace and freedom from subversive agitation. The few persons who are trying to stir up troubles in the ranks of labour under the guise of communistic or other analagous propaganda are, for the time being, insignificant although prompt steps will be taken if they endeavour to disturb the mutual relationship that happily exists and should exist between employers and employed within the State.

It may be added that the reasons that have evidently operated with reference to the release of certain persons in British India, namely, a more successful prosecution of war effort, do not obtain in Travancore because ever since the beginning of this war, there has been no division of opinion in the State on the matter and no considerable section of the people advocate the theory of non-violent non-co-operation. Such non-co-operation as has been manifested here has been of the violent type and has been dealt with.

TIN CONTAINERS AND GAS PRODUCERS.

President: Honourable Members might be glad to hear the result of the action taken by us on two matters. There was a certain amount of difficulty with regard to the export of cashewnuts from the State because of certain prohibitions against the supply of tin containers. I am glad to be able to announce that as a result of the representations made by the Government on behalf of the South Indian Cashewnut Manufacturers' Association, the Government of India have exempted tin cans containing cashew kernels for export to the United States of America from the requirements of the recent notification prescribing the taking out of licenses for tin containers exported out of India. This restriction was hampering the industry. I am glad to be able to announce that this restriction has been removed.

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The charcoal gas producers invented by and introduced into this State owing to the enterprise of Mr. Salter have established themselves throughout India and I am glad to say that there are orders for the supply of three-fourths of a lakh to places outside this State.

Sahib Bahadur Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderbhoy: Sir, I rise to thank the Government for getting this concession to merchants in respect of tin containers-

Legislative Business.

President: I find that the Special Marriage and Succession Bill has evoked considerable controversy. Perhaps it may be expedient to deal with the two other Bills first as these are of a non-controversial character.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: As the mover of the Special Marriage and Succession Bill, I wish to say that it is better under the circumstances to adhere to the statutory provision that the Bill that has advanced is taken up first. I do not know whether the other Bills will not take up much time.

President: There are no amendments to those Bills. I do not think there is any reason for nervesness.

Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai: There is no objection in taking up the other two Bills first. There are no amendments to the Travancore Cutchi Memons Bill. The Christian Succession Act (Amendment) Bill is in its introduction stage.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: Sir, these two Bills may be taken up first.

The House agreed to take up the Special Marriage and Succession Bill after other Legislative Business.

THE TRAVANCORE CUTCHI MEMONS BILL.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail Sir, I move that the Travancore Cutchi Memons Bills as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly, be taken into consideration.

Mr. James Fletcher: I second it.

The motion was carried.

The question that Clauses 1 to 3 and the Preamble and Title of the Bill stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: Sir, I move that the Cutchi Memons Bill be passed.

Mr. James Fletcher: I second it.

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed.

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